

Social Studies 7 Course Overview

Unit	Major Concepts	Skills	Summative Assessments
Empathy	Human rights. Sometimes people ignore the suffering of others. Human beings have empathy when they are aware of others.	Interpreting an image. Interpreting a written document. Making connections between different artifacts.	Practice Document Based Question (DBQ) - Students practice observing, analyzing, and writing about two paintings and one poem.
Mao and the Cultural Revolution in China	When government controls the military, media, and the economy, it controls the means of oppression. Land usage in China. Brief history of Chinese government. Cultural Revolution in China and why this is so important. Oppression and tolerance.	Map construction, analysis, and terrain identification. Identify the causes and outcomes of the Cultural Revolution.	China Museum (Using PowerPoint to construct a representation of the cultural revolution).
Gandhi and India	Geography of and land usage of India. Overcoming injustice by peaceful means. Understanding stereotypes and oppression.	Using specific styles of note taking. Planning and developing thoughts and ideas. Identifying perspectives of the occupation in India.	Letters to Gandhi (creating a series of letters to and from Gandhi by multiple people with different ideas about issues in India).
Europe and the Holocaust	Political and physical geography of Europe. Borders and ideas separated by rivers and mountains. Oppression and tyranny. Eight stages of Genocide.	Note Taking. Regional Mapping. Oral and Visual Presentations. Identifying Bias. Research the role of individuals in genocide.	Oral Presentation on assigned topics of the Holocaust.
Iran and the Revolution in 1979	Geography of Iran. Natural resources contributing to Iran's volatility. Conditions of Tyranny under the Shah and the Ayatollah. Conditions that make opportunities for revolution.	Analyze terrain and natural resources in Iran. Identifying problems in Iranian Society. Note-taking. Researching Data.	Map construction of Iran. Document Based Question Essay. 1970's Pop Culture Digital Magazine.
South Africa and Nelson Mandela	Geography and Culture of South Africa. Technology and the might of the minority control the masses. Peaceful demonstration and perseverance. Forgiveness is more powerful than revenge. Equality is possible when all voices are heard.	Mapping. Note Taking. Responding to the Document Based Question (DBQ). Researching.	South Africa Trip (planning and documenting a trip to South Africa). Document Based Question.

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